

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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NEA/ GRK: WJSILVA

H: KFOLGER

S/ S - MR. BARNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 074014

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, GR (HAYS, WAYNE)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN WAYNE HAYS TO GREECE

REF.: ATHENS 2309

KATHMANDU FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO

1. DAVIES SAW CONGRESSMAN HAYS APRIL 19 AND READ TO HIM
PARA (A) REFTEL. HE STRESSED THAT IF CONGRESSMAN WENT,
THERE WAS NO COMMITMENT OR PROMISE THAT AN APPOINTMENT
WITH THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

2. AT SAME TIME, DAVIES SAID HIS FEELING WAS PM WANTS
TO KEEP OPEN HIS OPTIONS AND INSURE THAT HE IS NOT
EMBARRASSED DOMESTICALLY OR ABROAD BY THE WAY THE VISIT IS
HANDLED IN THE PRESS AND BY THE CONGRESSMAN'S CONTACTS IN
ATHENS AND EUROPE. THE PM WILL BE WATCHING TO SEE HOW THE
CONGRESSMAN ACTS ON ARRIVAL AND WHOM HE SEEKS OUT. HE MAY
WELL BE INFLUENCED MOST STRONGLY BY WHAT HE PERCEIVES TO BE
THE PURPOSE OF MR. HAYS' VISIT.

3. DAVIES SAID HE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER APPOINT-
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MENT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. HE FELT IT USEFUL FOR SOMEONE OTHER THAN A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A SERIOUS UNPUBLICIZED EXCHANGE WITH THE PM.

4. HAYS RESPONDED THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO MAKE THE JOURNEY TO ATHENS. HE SAID THE GREEKS COULD BE TOLD THAT HE HAD HEARD EVERYTHING HE NEEDED TO HEAR FROM THE GREEK OPPOSITION AND NOW WISHED TO HEAR THE OTHER SIDE. HE NOTED THAT AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY, HE HAD SINGLE- HANDEDLY OPPOSED THE EXPULSION OF GREECE. HE WOULD BE GUARDED IN HIS COMMENTS AND CONTACTS IN ATHENS AND WOULD SEEK TO AVOID EMBARRASSING THE PM IN ANY WAY. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH HE MIGHT LATER SEE GREEK EXILE FIGURES IN EUROPE, IT WOULD NOT BE ON THIS TRIP.

5. WHEN APPRISED OF POSSIBILITY THAT AMBASSADOR TASCA WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN UNTIL LATE WEDNESDAY, HAYS SAID THAT HE ASCRIBED SUCH IMPORTANCE TO AMBASSADOR'S PRESENCE THAT HE WOULD SEEK TO HAVE THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROVIDE A PLANE TO LIFT THE AMBASSADOR FROM TEHRAN TO ATHENS TUESDAY NIGHT.

6. DAVIES IMPARTED INFO PARA (A) TO GREEK MIN GREGORIADES WHO HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE THAT A CALL ON THE ALTERNATE FONMIN KAVALIERATOS WOULD BE SET UP FOR THE CONGRESSMAN AND THAT THIS WAS DEEMED THE APPROPRIATE CONTACT. DAVIES NOTED THE DIFFERENCE IN MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY IN ATHENS AND GREEK EMBASSY HERE, AND GREGORIADES THOUGHT THAT CALL ON FOREIGN OFFICE WAS FIRM WHILE POSSIBLE CALL ON PM LEFT IN AIR.

7. HAYS DEPARTING SATURDAY FOR LONDON AND WILL ADVISE FROM LONDON FLIGHT AND ETA WHICH WILL BE SOMETIME TUESDAY AFTERNOON APRIL 24. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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